

A True and Perfect
ACCOUNT
Of a Strange and Dreadful
APPARITION

Which lately Infested and Sunk a
SHIP bound for *New-Castle*,

Called, *The Hope-well of London.*

And of the Strange Deliverance of
JOHN PYE MASTER,
and Nine Men more;

Who were all Examined and Sworn to the Truth
of the following **RELATION** before Justice
WOOD of *London.*

With Allowance.

Roger L'Estrange, March 30. 1672.

LONDON, Printed for Robert Clavel, 1672.

A. J. and F. J.

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Of a strange and Dr. J. J.

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Which lately visited and took a
HIP board for a few days

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and of the strange fellow

and nine when more

who were all and sworn to the
of the law and a TION before
1000 of pounds

GENERAL REPORT

Report of the General

Report of the General



A LETTER from a Friend, in
reference to the following Re-
lation.

Mr. Clavel,

I Have sent you enclosed, an account of a
strange Accident lately hapned in my journey,
to a Newcastle Ship, called, The Hopewel of
London, being infested with an Apparition, and
sunk with a stroke of that influence, I wish it
might be exposed to publick view, being satisfied,
that nothing is exprest therein but the truth;
having beard the Examination of the said John
Pye Master and nine men, all belonging to the
said Ship, before the Mayor of Grimsby: And

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since their arrival at London, I have received an account that they were not only examined, but all sworn there before Justice Wood ; and besides all the concurring Circumstances of the whole number of men in the Ship, nothing can be more convincing, then of the Masters face being burnt and blasted, especially on the left side. I hope to be with you in London shortly: I rest,

Your Affectionate Friend,

Grimsby in Hull River,
March 27. 1672.

Nathan. Jemson.



*A True and Perfect Relation of
the Strange and Dreadful Appa-
rition which lately Infested and
Sunk a Ship bound for New-
Castle, called, The Hope-well
of London.*



He 22. of February, 1671. we
sailed from *Gravesend*; and the
26. by Gods Providence we sail-
ed over the Bar of *Newcastle*, and
there Loaded the . . of *March*.
About Nine or Ten of the Clock
in the Night following, we ha-
ving made all clear and ready for the furtherance
of our Voyage, some time after Supper I went to
rest,

rest, when about Twelve of the Clock in the Night, to the best of my remembrance, I was awaked out of my sleep by a great noise, (but saw nothing) which to the best of my capacity bid me *Be gone, and that I had nothing to do there.* But being so hastily disturbed, and not certain what might be the cause, I gave it over for a Dream, and past that accident as uncertain of the truth. Now after the first Day was past, about Eight or Nine of the Clock at Night I went to rest; and about Twelve, my Mate was striking a Light to take a Pipe of Tobacco, (as I suppose) and expecting the Wherry to go up to the Town, being the Tide fell out about Two in the Morning, I desired the Candle might not be put out; and being as well awake as now I am, to the best of my judgment, I was then pulled by the Hair of my Head off from my Pillow, and the same words declared to me as before; and then I saw the perfect face and proportion of a Man, in a black Hat, stuff Coat, and striped Neck-cloth, with hanging down Hair, and and a sower down-looking Countenance, and his Teeth being set in his Head, I had then time to say, *Lord have mercy upon me, what art?* at which he vanished: Yet the Candle burned very blew, and almost went out: Hereupon being much discontented, I did by the following Post give my Owners a just account of what had befallen me.

The fifth of that instant, we set sail: about four of the Clock in the day, the Wind at *W.S.W.*
fair

fair Weather, and a brave Gale off the Shore, which continued until half an hour after Eleven on *wednesday* Night; at which time the Man at the Helm called out that he could not stir the Helm: but after I had pulled off the Whip-Staff, the Ship steered as before, being still fair Weather, the VVind then coming to the *N. W.* and Snowing VVeather, but very fair and clear. I was yet doubtful of more VVind, and therefore caused the Men to furl the fore Top-sail, and lower down the main Top-sail upon the back of the main Sail, but could not with all the strength we had hale in; the VVeather brake off the fore Top-sail, when this was still in my judgment, that our Ship did hale as much, as when our Sails were out. Then we haled up our main Sail, and still the Ship had the same list as with a large VVind, which to my judgment might be half a streak, or thereabouts.

By this time it was Two of the Clock, then our Men tried the Pump, and found little or no water in her: the Man at the Helm called out, That the Candle burned so blew in the Lanthorn, That it gave little or no light, and three several times went out, so that I held the Candle to the Look-out, which Candle did burn very well, and shewed a good light; but of a suddain our Ship would not feel her Helm so kindly as before, and brought all our Sails aback. Then our Ship heeled as much to VVindward as before to Leeward: the Glass being out, we went to the Pump, and found
no

no water in the ship, but she did not steer well, nei-
 ther could I find the reason, being still so fair wea-
 ther: This unkind steerage, made me urgent to try
 the pump yet more, but I could not get the upper
 box to work, nor stir; but having taken that up, and
 trying with the pump-hook, we could not come
 near the lower box by a foot and a half, which to
 my judgement was hindred by something like a
 Bull-fish, or Woofsack, that as we forced down,
 gave up again with the hook: Whereupon Mi-
 strusting that all was not well, I caused our men
 to keep the Coat of our pump up, and myself
 loosned the tack; in the mean time I ordered
 two men to loose the Boat, which they did,
 being lashed in three places: Yet they do not
 remember to this hour, that they loosned any
 of them but the middlemost; and with three men
 in her, the Boat went over the top of the
 Foresheet, which lay above the stem, without
 touching it, with such violence, as even ama-
 zed us that saw it: And they that were in the
 Boat, gave such loud cryes, as frightened him at
 the Helm, who came running out unknown to
 me. But then finding the ship coming nearer the
 wind then formerly, I ran to the stair-case, to
 bid him put the Helm over, but could not: And
 hearing one jump down at the hatch, which was
 open at the half deck, did suppose that the
 Helms man came down again; and calling him
 by his name to come and help me, the word
 was no sooner out of my mouth, but I per-
 ceived

ceived the same person that I had formerly seen before we came out of the Harbour; who came violently to me, saying, *Be gone, you have no more to do here*; throwing me in at the Cabbin door, clear upon the top of the table; when I crying out, *In the Name of God what art*, he vanished away in a flash of fire; thinking withal, that the ship had split in a thousand pieces, it giving such a crack. The men thereupon calling out, *Master, if ye be a man come away*, did something revive me; and striving to have got to my chest, being I had some money it, I found that something hindered me, but what it was I could not tell. Then perceiving the main Sea coming in so fast, that I was up to the waste, before I could get out of the Cabbin; and finding all our men in the Boat but only one, I desired him to get a Compass; which he did, yet could never after know what became of it. We were no sooner in the Boat, but the ship sank down, and yet having a great Sea Fur Gown, which lay upon the ~~dicker~~, upon the ships going down, the very upset of the water brought it to the Boats side, and one of our men took it in. We reckoned our selves to be ten or twelve Leagues E. S. E. from the Sperrn, I perceived the Fane at the Main-top-mast head, when the ship was sunk: We continued in the Boat from three in the morning, till ten or eleven that day, when we were taken up by a *Whitby* Ketch, who used us very kindly, and towed our Boat at his stern

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with two ends of a hauser, till she brake away :
She being bound for *Newcastle*, and the wind being contrary, did on the *Saturday* following, set us a shore at *Grimsby* in *Hull River*, where the Maior gave us a Pass for *London*.

This is a true and perfect relation to the best of my knowledge in every respect,

John Pye Master.

And attested by nine men more, all belonging to my Ship.

F I N I S.

Postscript.

I Had forgot to exprefs, that one fide of my face is burnt and blafted forely, which I felt within half an hour after I was gone out of the Ship; but how it came upon me in the Ship I could not tell, being then in a great horror and amazement,

John Pye.

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